



Indiana's Weatherization Programs

The purpose of Indiana's weatherization programs is to:

- Provide energy conservation measures to the homes of Indiana's low-income population
- To preserve and create jobs and promote economic recovery

Important Upcoming Dates

- **August 31- HEC Round 1 Close Out Forms Due**
Sub-grantees whose grant ended on July 31 must submit their ARRA HEC close our form no later than Tuesday, August 31
- **August 31- ARRA HEC Round 2 First Benchmark Deadline**
Sub-grantees working on their ARRA Round 2 grant must meet their projected monthly production goals through August, as indicated in your ARRA 2010 Budget. Only completions entered in IWAP by the end of the day (11:59pm) will be reviewed.
- **September 2- Job Hours Created/Retained Due**
Sub-grantees receiving ARRA funds must turn in their report recording job hours created and retained in August by Thursday, September 2 at 5:00pm EST.
- **September 30- ARRA HEC Round 1 Close Out Forms Due**
Sub-grantees whose grant ended on August 31 must submit their ARRA HEC close our form no later than Thursday, September 30
- **September 30- LIHEAP Grant Ends**
Sub-grantees receiving 2009-2010 LIHEAP funds must reach their 100% benchmark by Thursday, September 30. Close out forms are due Monday, November 29 by 5:00pm EST.
- **October 1- ARRA Hours Created/Retained Due**
Sub-grantees receiving ARRA funds must turn in their report recording job hours created and retained in September by Friday, October 1 at 5:00pm EST. This is the end of the quarter, so make certain that hours reported for July-September are complete and accurate as the report cannot be edited after this date.



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WEATHERIZATION PROGRAMS

The Weatherization Xpress



Letter from Paul Krievins:

As we all deal with near hundred degree temperatures and the post-summer vacation blues, I wanted to use this second edition of *The WX* to highlight the successes and challenges we have had to-date.

For those of you that are counting, we have now been working on ARRA homes for almost a full 12 months. In that time we have become only the 19th state to receive release of our full ARRA funding, we are completing more than 1,000 units a month, and we have saved more than \$600,000 using centralized purchasing.

We have also been challenged to ramp up monitoring to an unprecedented level, underwent a comprehensive visit by the Office of the Inspector General, and fought through staff and contractor learning curves with varying success.

Each of these successes and challenges has forced our network to grow and diversify in ways we couldn't have imagined one year ago. I encourage each of you reading this newsletter to take a moment and think back over the change that you have been a part of and smile. We have a lot more to do.

-Paul

in this issue

- Tech Talk **P.1**
- Monitoring: Current Issues **P.2**
- Programmatic Updates **P.3**
- Important Upcoming Dates **P.4**

Tech Talk: Feedback from the Field

In this issue, IHCDA's technical monitors shift their attention to fuel switching.

IHCDA is receiving an increased number of requests for permission to switch fuels in combustion appliances, most of which are requests to remove a gas water heater to install an electric water heater. Because of this surge in requests, we want to discuss all that is considered before a fuel switch is granted.

The Department of Energy issued the following Weatherization Program Notice 10-1, Section 5.11 regarding fuel switching: "The DOE Weatherization Assistance Program does not permit the general practice of non-renewable fuel switching when replacing furnaces/appliances. However, DOE does allow the changing or converting of a furnace/appliance using one fuel source to another on a **limited, case-by-case basis only.**"

Because we may only grant requests to switch fuels on a "limited, case-by-case basis", IHCDA needs as much information as possible, including digital pictures, to evaluate the request and make the best decision for the client's home.

IHCDA's concern is that fuel switching is becoming a way of fixing problematic draft issues due to high negative pressures in the Combustion Appliance Zone (CAZ). If a gas water heater will not draft due to a high negative pressure in the CAZ, the first solution should not be fuel switching. Although installing an electric water heater will solve the obvious Health and Safety issues tied to the gas water heater draft, the negative pressure in the CAZ will remain. Due diligence must be made to solve the depressurization problem—not only so the gas water heater will vent—but so that the home is left in as safe a condition as possible.

The primary goal of the Weatherization Assistance Program is to save energy. One down side of fuel switching is that it can adversely affect the overall energy savings of a Weatherized home. While you show positive savings with one utility, you show a negative savings with the other utility. IHCDA must take such factors as this into consideration as we evaluate each fuel switching request. IHCDA appreciates everyone's patience and cooperation with our fuel switching policy.



CLIENT FILES:
Warming Homes and
Hearts

Each edition of *The WX* will feature a piece written by someone close to Indiana’s weatherization programs—the client.

“I want to thank the most wonderful people in South Bend. They are called the people at REAL Services. Through the agency’s weatherization program, I got a brand new furnace in March of this year and my house was insulated so well, I just can’t believe it. These people gave a lot of time and worked very hard to fix my cold and drafty home.

“I am very proud of each and every one of them. I want to thank all involved with the biggest thank you. I love them all. Everyone was so nice and treated me with respect not even my kids do. They are the greatest and deserve a great big pat on the back.”

Charlotte Green
South Bend

Send your stories to:
chwininger@ihcda.in.gov



Monitoring: Current
Issues

The Purpose of Monitoring

When you think about all of the transformations that ARRA funds brought to the state’s weatherization programs, few changes stand out more than monitoring. Technical monitoring, file monitoring, Davis-Bacon monitoring, financial monitoring, administrative monitoring, monitoring the monitors... WHEW! In this month’s edition of *The WX*, IHCDA’s monitoring staff channels their inner Socrates and answers “why all the monitoring?”

IHCDA’s goal for weatherization is simple—to provide the highest possible quality of energy conservation services to every client we serve. We hope that this article gives you a better understanding of the purposes and processes of our monitoring system—the method to the madness.

IHCDA requires that ten percent of each ARRA sub-grantee’s weatherized homes and client files be monitored for safety, quality, and compliance with DOE regulations, all of which is critical to the success of our weatherization programs.

IHCDA’s monitoring staff works closely with our contracted monitors and facilitates ongoing training to make sure that all monitors—both staff and contracted—are following the same monitoring procedures. This working relationship minimizes disruption at your agency because it cuts down on re-monitors and encourages cooperation in the event a difficult issue is encountered.

Sub-grantees should understand that monitoring reports are intended to be a formal dialogue between your

agency and the monitor. It is your opportunity to justify why a measure was or was not ordered for a client’s home or why work was done in a particular way. If a finding or concern is cited that contrasts with program guidance or policies, use your report response to seek clarification from the monitor. Agencies should not fix findings with which they disagree until the issue is clear. The goal of the report is to come to a mutually

acceptable corrective action plan so the issue can be cleared.

Findings are issues that require corrective action to be cleared. To achieve clearance, a sub-grantee must submit proof that the finding is fixed. Photo documentation is encouraged. Concerns are those items that are identified as areas of weakness, but do not require formal corrective action plans. However, sub-grantees must respond to the concerns in writing to inform the monitor how the agency plans to improve that area of weakness. It is

Monitoring ensures
that clients receive
safe, high quality
weatherization
services.

important that information contained in the monitoring report is distributed to agency staff performing those duties. By sharing the monitoring data, it will be easier to facilitate agency improvement.

IHCDA understands that monitoring is time consuming and, at times, stressful for our sub-grantees and we want to express our appreciation for your cooperation.



As your agency spends down Round 1 ARRA funds and transitions to Round 2 funds, keep in mind the points outlined below.

ARRA 2009 (Round 1) Extensions
Your organization must have **all work completed** on ARRA 2009 units by the end date of your grant. If this is not possible, you *must* request a second extension prior to the end date of your grant. Please make sure you have a solid plan and date to complete your grant. If your grant ends prior to your requested extension, IHCDA will likely disallow all costs incurred after the last day of the grant period.

All organizations have “Projected Total Number of Homes” listed on your 2010 approved budget form. If an extension is beyond August 31, please be aware that your ARRA 2010 funding will be impacted during the second Benchmark Review on Tuesday, November 30th.

ARRA 2010 (Round 2) Benchmarks
The first benchmark listed in the 2010 grant agreement will be reviewed on Wednesday, September 1. You have until **Tuesday, August 31st at 11:59pm EST** to enter completions into IWAP. A few items to remember:

- Your completions must be entered into IWAP and your

measures coded to funding source “ARRA 2010”

- Total number of units listed on your 2010 approved budget form in “Projected Total Number of Homes” will be compared to IWAP ARRA 2010 completions
- To review your recorded total for accuracy, go to: IWAP; Reports; ARRA 2010 Quarterly; enter August 31st as the report end date.

IHCDA will consider grant funding cuts on the ARRA 2010 grant after review of this first benchmark and again after the November 30th benchmark.

Plugged In

Check out these two online weatherization aids when you have time between entering data into IWAP and ordering more supplies from Langham.

What We’re Watching: WxTV

Inquisitive about new insulation techniques? Need a tune-up on your furnace cleaning skills? Check out WxTV, a series of 10-15 minute online training videos published by the Montana Weatherization Training Center (MWTC). You can watch the training videos at: www.weatherization.org/wxtv.

WAPTAC Gets A Facelift

The Weatherization Assistance Program Technical Assistance Center (WAPTAC) webpage underwent some cosmetic work recently and came out looking fabulous! The site is still a library for all things weatherization, but is much more user-friendly. Check out the new and improved website at: www.waptac.com

BY THE
NUMBERS:
HEC Program
Progress Report

- Homes weatherized: **7,114**
- Hoosiers served: **17,836**
- National ranking, second quarter 2010 production: **7th**
- National ranking, percent of total award spent: **26th**
- National ranking, overall units completed (through 5/31) compared to total ARRA units planned: **9th**
- Auditors trained: **302**
- Contractors trained: **2,029**
- Hoosier jobs created or retained: **357**
- Estimated product savings with Centralized Purchasing: **\$616,224.02**

Car Talk:
Ruxer Ford-Lincoln-Mercury dealership in Jasper is offering a one-year vehicle lease deal to all sub-grantees in the HEC network. Leasing a vehicle from Ruxer might be a better option than buying if you need a short-term solution to your vehicle shortage. Interested? Call Ruxer’s account manager, Greg Elsperman, at 812-482-1200.